

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL OLMEDA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce my colleagues to Michael Olmeda. Michael's story is a testament to overcoming personal adversity. At one point in his life he succumbed to substance abuse, but through personal resolve, he continues to escape the lure of chemical reliance and self-indulgence.

Mike presently works for Assemblyman Darryl Towns, and cut his political teeth working for Senator Ada Smith. In his current capacity, he works with senior citizens and a substance abuse rehabilitation program.

Mr. Olmeda is married to his wife of 14 years, Cecilia, and they have three children, Steven, Raquel, and Travis. He lives by a philosophy that is his source of renewal, "Each One, Teach One." Truly, the experience of Michael Olmeda is a profile in courage and success.

CHILD ABDUCTION AND
EXPLOITATION

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, there are five categories of missing children, they are:

First, abducted by family members.

Second, abducted by nonfamily members.

Third, runaways.

Fourth, throwaways.

Fifth, lost, injured or other reasons.

All numbers are for 1988 cases.

Family abductions: Involves taking the child in violation of the custody agreement, referred to as "child snatching."

Fifty-three percent were living with a single parent; 41 percent occurred in the midst of an ongoing relationship; 2 percent involved snatching the child from day care centers, rather they involved violations of custody agreements.

Nonfamily abductions: There were 114,600 attempted abductions. There were 3,200–4,600 children abducted. Children ages 4–11 experienced the most attempts. Most attempts involved a car.

More than half the victims were age 12 and older; 62 percent were to strangers; 19 percent were to acquaintances; force was used against 84% of the victims.

Runaways: Children who left home overnight without permission. There were 450,7000, although the majority went to familiar places. There were 133,500 children who left without a secure and familiar place to stay; 67 percent were 16 to 17 years old.

Throwaways: Children who are thrown out of their homes. There were 59,200 cases reported; 84 percent were for children between the ages of 16 and 17.

Lost, injured or otherwise missing: 139,000 reported cases; 47 percent ages 4 and under.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT CHILD
ABDUCTION AND EXPLOITATION

Know where your children are at all times. Be familiar with their friends and daily activities.

Be sensitive to changes in your children's behavior; they are a signal that you should sit down and talk to your children about what caused the changes.

Be alert to a teenager or adult who is paying an unusual amount of attention to your children or giving them inappropriate or expensive gifts.

Teach your children to trust their own feelings, and assure them that they have the right to say "NO" to what they sense is wrong.

Listen carefully to your children's fears, and be supportive in all your discussions with them.

Teach your children that no one should approach them or touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable. If someone does, they should tell the parents immediately.

Be careful about babysitters and any other individual who have custody of your children.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to a family obligation, I was not present to vote yesterday afternoon.

If I had been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 757, the rules resolution for the District of Columbia Appropriations Act; "no" on rollcall 758, the Bonilla amendment revoking the D.C. property tax exemption for the National Education Association; and "no" on rollcall 759, the Hostettler amendment repealing the District of Columbia's Domestic Partnership Act.

VETERANS DAY 1995

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our veterans who have served their country with honor and valor. This November 11, as we celebrate Veterans Day, we must recognize the commitment made by these men and women and reaffirm our Nation's commitment to honor their great sacrifices.

Whether on the beaches of Normandy, the jungle of Vietnam, the desert of Iraq, or in Korea, American men and women were there, protecting America and her allies from foreign aggressors. We, as a nation, owe a debt of gratitude to our veterans, whose accomplishments shaped America and the world.

Several events have made 1995 quite a testimony to the successes of our veterans. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, which rose above the disaster of World War II to provide assistance, hope, and peace to millions of people around the world. A new prospect for peace has arisen in the Middle East due to the historic signing of a peace accord between the P.L.O. and Israel. A Korean War Memorial was dedicated this year in our Nation's Capital finally giving due recognition to the veterans of a war that was largely forgotten. And finally, and most impor-

tantly, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. Fifty years ago, our troops courageously halted the Nazi and Japanese advance. Today, as a testimony to their efforts, these two nations are among our closest allies.

It is imperative that we remember the patriotism of these great men and women. If our forces had not succeeded, the course of history would have been altered. The peace and prosperity that we have come to expect in America is directly attributable to the sacrifices made by the millions of American soldiers who risked their lives for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Let us continue to recognize their commitment to us, and let us reaffirm our commitment to our veterans on this Veterans Day, 1995.

MEDICARE PRESERVATION ACT OF
1995

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2425) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve and reform the Medicare Program.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of Representative ORTON's substitute budget, offered on behalf of the Democrats. It is a positive alternative.

It is critical that we balance our budget—particularly for future generations. This plan does that without gutting Medicare, without eliminating Medicaid, without cutting student loans and without adding provisions that threaten our environment. This budget creates solid footing for this Nation's economy. It doesn't ask our children and elderly to go without medical care so that wealthy individuals can receive a \$245 billion tax cut.

Unlike the Republican budget plan, this substitute protects health insurance for the poor and the elderly. First, it increases preventive benefits for the elderly. At the same time, it ensures that the monthly Medicare premium paid by beneficiaries does not increase. The Republicans, under their budget, ask seniors to pay more in monthly premiums. The Orton substitute continues paying premiums and deductibles for low-income Medicare recipients. The Republican plan does not. This substitute budget maintains Medicaid as an entitlement program so that children and pregnant women are guaranteed access to health care coverage. The Republicans abolish Medicaid as an entitlement, tearing away guaranteed health insurance for two out of every five of our Nation's children. Restricting Medicaid benefits will add to the already high number of uninsured individuals.

The Republican budget cuts student loans. Education programs, particularly, student loans would be preserved under this budget. Education is the essential foundation on which we continue to build the future of our Nation.

Finally, this substitute plan protects and tightens the earned income tax credit [EITC]. Under the Republican budget, childless couples and senior citizens who work would no longer receive this credit. It seems ironic that

Republicans want to eliminate and limit a credit that rewards working individuals. The EITC has been supported by Republican and Democratic Presidents and previous Congresses.

This substitute balances the budget in 7 years without attacking families, children, students or senior citizens. It protects health care, preserve educational assistance and continues economic help to the needy. Most important, this plan does not include a huge tax break—that most individuals don't want or need. This substitute disciplines spending and that discipline will ultimately add to America's competitiveness in a global economy and keep faith with our citizens now and into our future.

TRIBUTE TO M. STELLA POLANCO ROSARIO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the contributions of Ms. Stella Polanco Rosario are vital and valuable. She has been directly responsible for dramatically improving the achievement results of Harlem's performance on the testing assessment placement [TAP] exam for adults. Ms. Rosario began her work in this area in 1982 when she became employed with the New York City Department of Employment. At the time, the Harlem center was ranked No. 9, but through Stella's diligent efforts, the center achieved No. 1 performance status in meeting the city's benchmark for client service and program initiatives.

Among her other contributions, Ms. Rosario has been instrumental in developing interdisciplinary planning programs for economically and socially disadvantaged youth. For the past 7 years, Ms. Polanco Rosario has been an education representative in Con Edison's Brooklyn public affairs department.

Always willing to assist in meeting community needs, Stella has served on boards of directors for a number of not-for-profit community organizations in Brooklyn. She has raised money, planned events, and done whatever was necessary to make a positive difference. I am pleased to acknowledge the contributions that she has made to enrich the lives of many in the Brooklyn community.

STUDENT BORROWERS TO PAY HIGHER LOAN COSTS

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, House Republican estimates of the cost savings from eliminating the grace period interest subsidy for student loan borrowers grossly understate the actual out-of-pocket costs to students. The \$3.75 billion figure that CBO arrived at shows the savings to the Federal Government, and not the cost to students. The impact on students is much, much worse.

Student borrowers will pay, out-of-pocket and over life of their loans, \$8.31 billion more

in loan payments than they would under current law. If you add to that amount the impact of the 30 percent increase in the interest rate on parents' loans, middle-class families will pay an extra \$9.2 billion in college costs.

These cuts are terribly unfair. Not only do Republicans make it more difficult for children from middle-class families to attend college, Republicans use the savings to finance their tax cut for the rich.

House Republican conferees should pledge today to protect students and parents from higher college costs. House Republicans should drop their proposal to eliminate the grace period interest subsidy and to raise the interest rate on parents' loans. Ninety-nine Members of the Senate last week voted to drop virtually identical provisions from their proposal. Republicans should come to their senses and stand with, and not against, students and parents.

Conferees should also retain the direct lending program to keep choice and competition in the student loan system. Members need only read their mail to know that the students and parents who use it like it.

EXPANDING SECOND CLASS POSTAL RATES

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation that would narrowly expand the definition of second class postal rates to include Elderhostel.

Elderhostel is an independent, nonprofit organization that combines the traditions of a college education and youth hostels for people over the age of 60. Inspired by the world wide success of youth hostels, Elderhostel, offers retirees a host of educational programs at university campuses, community centers, museums, and even in State and national parks. More than 1,900 colleges and universities throughout the United States, Canada, and 47 other countries participate in the international program.

Elderhostel offers retirees the ability to return to school. Participants can study history, astronomy, geology, jazz, or just about any subject they are interested in. The programs are relaxed, no-pressure, learning experiences. Seniors have the opportunity to expand their mind, meet new friends, and improve the quality of their lifestyle.

Seniors are not the only ones who benefit. State and local economies benefit as well. Many seniors who participate in the program travel to other States and cities for classes. Thus, increasing the rate of travel and tourism to many States throughout our country. Elderhostel generates huge resources for many States, including Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, California, Alaska, Florida, Ohio, Hawaii, and Indiana.

Elderhostel enrolls its students through the mail. It sends course catalogues free of charge to thousands of older Americans who request them. The problem is postal rates are increasing and Elderhostel is unable to continue to offer these courses at modest costs.

Elderhostel currently mails its course catalogues at a third class, nonprofit bulk rate. The

catalogue is not eligible for second-class rates because it is not a publication of a regularly incorporated nonprofit institution of learning—even though colleges and universities that participate in the program are eligible.

My legislation would expand the definition of second class postal rate to include Elderhostel. Specifically, the definition of "an institution of higher learning" would be amended to include Elderhostel because it operates a central course catalogue for all levels of classes offered by regular institutions of learning.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO J. RICHARD (DICK) SEWELL

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Floridian and dear friend who recently passed away. J. Richard "Dick" Sewell, a former congressional aide and retired Washington representative for Florida Power & Light Co., died October 26 in a Washington hospital. He had lung cancer.

A native of Orlando, Dick was well known and loved in Washington and Florida. He moved to Washington in 1963 to become administrative assistant to Congressman Charles Bennett, a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee and chairman of the first House Ethics Committee. In 1966, he served as staff coordinator for the ad hoc ethics committee and helped Bennett draft legislation which resulted in a permanent House Ethics Committee. He was a former president of the Burro Club, an organization of Democratic congressional aides. In that capacity, he hosted a 1967 visit to Capitol Hill by President Lyndon Johnson and members of his Cabinet. President Johnson, himself a former Burro Club president, reminisced to the membership at length about his own experiences as a congressional assistant in the early 1930's.

Dick left Bennett's staff in 1971 to become director of public affairs for the National Association of Food Chains. In 1972, he assisted Senator Henry M. Jackson (D-WA) in his campaign for the Democratic Presidential nomination, serving as the campaign's executive director in Florida. He became director of Federal Government affairs for Florida Power & Light Co. in 1973 and was the utility's chief Washington representative until his retirement, due to illness, in 1994. He was highly effective in energy, environment, and tax issues pending before Congress and Federal agencies, and was the author of numerous published articles on those subjects.

In 1986-87, he directed FPL's campaign to establish a national award to recognize quality performance by American corporations. Partly through those efforts, Congress in 1987 enacted the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Improvement Act, under which companies compete for the Malcolm Baldrige Award. Named for the former Commerce Secretary, the awards are given annually by the Department of Commerce to corporations of all sizes in various categories.

Dick was a past president of the Washington Business-Government Relations Council